benefits are compensated to some extent by the grant of interest to the pensioner;

(b) if so, the rate of interest thereof;

(c) what is the modality for deciding 'delay' and whether interest is granted as a matter of course if the delay is not on account of the pensioner himself;

(d) whether there is any administrative machinery in each Ministry to oversee the observance of these instructions; and

(e) if so, whether the Ministry of information and broadcasting and various offices under its control are implementing these norms for speedy sanction of pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Rules provide for payment of interest only on delayed payment of gratuity.

(b) No interest is payable for the first 3 months from the date of retirement on superannuation and first 6 months in the case of other kinds of retirement not involving disciplinary proceedings. Beyond these periods interest is allowed at 7% per annum for the period of delay upto one year and at 10% per annum for the period of delay beyond one year.

(c) Interest is payable if it is clearly established that the delay in payment was attributable to administrative lapse and that the delay was not caused on account of failure on the part of the Government servant in complying with the procedure laid down for sanction of pension.

(d) and (e) It is the responsibility of all Ministries/Departments to ensure that Government rules and instructions are observed and complied with.

Telecast of Serial 'Lord Krishna'

2072. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast the serial "Lord Krishna" and a story from "Shrimad Bhagwat"; and

(b) if so, by when these are likely to be telecast?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir, no such programme has been approved for telecast by Doordarshan so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Coir Board

2073. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for modernisation and restructing of the Coir Industry formulated by the Task Force constituted by the Planning Board of Kerala has been accepted by the Union Government and the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the date from which it will be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not accepting it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) The Task Force was constituted by the Government of Kerala. A copy of the Report has been sent to the Ministry of Industry, Government of India. Subsequently, the Government of India appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Asim